

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT**

Public Services- Treasuries and Accounts – Pension- Fake PPOs received in the Office of the Dist. Treasury, Nizamabad- Sri Md. Rafiuddin Ahmed, Accounts Officer (Retd.) and Sri K. Raghavachary, AFO (Retd.) - Imposition of a Punishment of Withholding of 10% of Pension Permanently under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980, besides Recovery of Loss caused to the Government – Orders – Issued.

FINANCE (ADMN.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 375

Dated:05-02-2013.

Read the following:-

1. DTA. Lr.No.D2/13495/2006-1, dated 20-08-2006.
2. Govt. Memo.3637/132/A2/Admn.I.Vig/2006, dt. 02-09-2006.
3. DTA. Lr.No.KII(7)/13783/2006-1, dated 19-09-2006
4. Govt. Memo.3637/132/A2/Admn.I.Vig/2006, dt. 29-09-2006.
5. Govt. Memo.3637/132/A2/Admn.I.Vig/2006, dt. 11-05-2007.
6. Govt. Memo.3637/132/A2/Admn.I.Vig/2006, dt. 12-07-2007.
7. Govt. Memo.3637/132/A2/Admn.I.Vig/2006, dt. 31-08-2007.
8. DTA. Lr.No.KII(7)/13783/2006-1, dated 27-09-2007.
9. Govt. Memo.3637/132/A2/Admn.I.Vig/2006, dt. 21-11-2007.
10. Govt. Memo.3637/132/A2/Admn.I.Vig/2006, dt. 24-11-2007.
11. DTA Charge Memo.No. K (II)7/13783/2006-5, dt:18-02-2008.
12. Defence Statement of Sri Md.Rafiuddin Ahmed, Asst. Treasury Officer (Retd), dt: 15-04-08.
13. Enquiry Report of Sri G.Shivkumar Reddy, DD.DT, Ranga Reddy, dt:31-10-2009.
14. DTA. Lr.No. K(II)7/13783/2006-1, dated 31-08-2010 along with Representation of Sri Md.Rafiuddin Ahmed, Asst. Treasury Officer (Retd.), dt. 06-11-2010.
15. Govt.Memo.No.3637/132/A2/Admn.I/2006, Dt.11-05-2012.
16. Explanations given by the individuals dated.28/5/12 and 30/5/12
17. DTA. Lr.No. K(II)7/13783/2006, dated 21-11-2012
18. Secretary I/C, APPSC Lr.No.2414/RT/1/2012, dt.09-01-2013.

ORDER:-

Director of Treasuries and Accounts, A.P., Hyderabad in the letter 1st read above stated that Sri K. Raghavachary, Assistant Finance Officer (Retd.) and Sri Md. Rafiuddin Ahmed, Accounts Officer (Retd.) while working at Sub Treasury / District Treasury, Nizamabad, among others have made payment of Rs. 6,11,179/- against a fake Pension Payment Order in the name of service pensioner late Sri Mohammed Saleem and family pensioner Smt Rehna Begum.

2. Based on the preliminary report by the Vigilance Officer Smt.K.Kanakavalli, Joint Director of Treasuries, the Director of Treasuries appointed Sri G.Shivakumar Reddy, Joint Director of T & A Department as Inquiry officer and the following are the findings of the Enquiry Report.

Charge-I:

That the said Sri K.Raghavachary, the then Sub treasury Officer, Dist. Treasury Nizamabad has processed the fake PPO No. 02-SG-007941 in 5/2006 in respect of Smt Rehna Begum without indentifying the PPOs properly in violation of the instructions of the Director of Treasuries and Accounts A.P. Hyderabad, issued from time to time which resulted for a fraudulent payment to a tune of Rs. 6,11,179/- which caused financial loss to Govt. Thus he exhibited lack of integrity and devotion to duty and thereby exhibited conduct unbecoming of a Government Servant and contravened rule 3 of A.P. Civil Services (Con) Rules, 1964.

Charge-II:

That the Charged Officer while working as sub Treasury Officer , Dist. Treasury Nizamabad is responsible for admitting /processing the fake PPO No. 02-SG-007941 in respect of Smt Rehna Begum in the pension register wrongly, though it is not related to head Quarters, Sub Treasury Jurisdiction

Assessment and Finding on Charge –I

There is no supporting rule which mandates that the STO in the O/o the DTO is required to identify the pensioner and the role of STO in the O/o the DTO is to verify the details of PPO as the pensioner will not appear in the District Treasury Office DTO as payments are not done in the District Treasury.

The question of identification of pensioner in District Treasury will not arise. Hence the charge is **not proved**.

Assessment and Finding on Charge –II

The Charged Officer was looking after the pension section and being an STO, he was vested with the supervisory role in respect of the issues dealt by his section. As a part of his supervisory role, scrutiny of all claims was his legitimate duty. The fake PPO had too many discrepancies on it compared to the original PPOs as issued by AG viz. texture of paper, colour of ink, instructions on backside of GPO, date of retirement as on 31-08-2002 and commencement of pension, from 01-09-2004 instead of 01-09-2002 absence disbursers half in the set. But the Charged Officer being a supervisory officer is required to cross check all issues of claims put up to him by the section before forwarding it to superior officer. But the discrepancies indicate that charged officer had failed to discharge his legitimate duty hence the charge is **proved**.

The following charge was framed against Sri Md.Rfiuddin Ahmed, ATO (Rtd):

Charges-I

That the said Sri Mohd.Rafiuddin Ahmed while working as Deputy Director (I/c), Dist. Treasury, Nizamabad had approved entries made in the register of PPOs in APTC Form-81, of fake PPO no.02-SG-07941 in 2006, in respect of Smt. Rehna Begum without indentifying the pensioners properly in violation of the instructions issued by the Director of Treasuries and Accounts, A.P. Hyderabad, from time to time which resulted in a fraudulent payment to a tune of Rs.6,11,179/- causing financial loss to Government.

Assessment and Findings on the Charge-I

The Charge of the disciplinary authority that charged officer has failed to identify the Pensioner while entering the details in the PPO register cannot be sustained in the absence of any rule which mandates identification of pensioner by the Dist. Treasury staff at the time of entering the details of the PPO in the PPO register. However the role of the Charged Officer in approving the entries of the fake PPO in the register without exercising caution while scrutinizing, which resulted in the payment to a fake PPO, proved that the Charged Officer had failed in his primary duty of scrutiny of claim thoroughly before payment was made and thus the charge is **proved**.

3. Government after careful examination of the report of the Enquiry Officer with reference to the charges framed against Sri Mohd. Rafiuddin Ahmed, Asst. Treasury Officer (Rtd) and Sri K.Raghavachary, Sub Treasury Officer (Rtd.) found that the charges framed against them are held proved and therefore decided to impose 10% cut in pension permanently on both the charged officers.

4. And where as in the reference 15th read above Govt. issued final Show Cause Notice to the Charged Officers to the effect that why a punishment of withholding of 10% cut pension permanently from their pension should not be imposed under rule 9 of A.P.R.P.R 1980 for the charges which have been conclusively proved before the enquiry officer.

5. And where as in the reference 16th read above the two officers submitted their explanations in which they reiterated their earlier explanation.

6. Where as in the in the reference 18th read above, the APPSC was consulted for their concurrence on the proposed punishment against the two charged officers. The APPSC, Hyderabad have stated that they have examined the material made available and agreed with the proposal of the Government to impose punishment of 10% cut in the pension permanently on the two retired officials i.e. Sri Md Rafiuddin Ahmed, ATO (Rtd) and Sri K.Raghavachary, STO (Rtd.) besides recovery of loss caused to the Govt.

7. Government, accordingly, hereby order for imposition of a punishment of withholding of 10% cut in pension permanently on the Charged Officers Sri K. Raghavachary, Assistant Finance Officer (Retd.) and Sri Md. Rafiuddin Ahmed, Accounts Officer (Retd.) as per Rule 9 of Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules 1980, besides recovery of loss caused to the Government.

8. The Director of Treasuries and Accounts, A.P, Hyderabad, shall take necessary further action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

Dr.D. SAMBASIVA RAO
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FP)

To

The individuals through Director of Treasuries and Accounts, AP, Hyderabad.

The Director of Treasuries and Accounts, A.P., Hyderabad.

Copy to:

The Secretary, A.P. Public Service Commission, A.P., Hyderabad.

The Secretary, A.P. Vigilance Commission, Secretariat, Hyderabad.

The Accountant General, A.P., Hyderabad.

SF/SC

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER